REMARKS

Applicants believe the foregoing arguments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Applicants amend claim 1. The present invention, as amended independent claim 1, teaches a combination of elements including a feature of "at least one loader arranged at the first side of the substrate bonding station for subsequently loading the first substrate and the second substrate into the substrate bonding station". None of cited references teaches or suggests the feature of the present invention. Gaynes et al. describe "the conveyor 204 for loading the tile 100 corresponding to the first substrate and the cover plate 101 corresponding to the second substrate into the tile align and secure station 17 corresponding to the substrate bonding station at the same time"; however, this is not "one loader arranged at the first side of the substrate bonding station for subsequently loading the first substrate and the second substrate into the substrate bonding station" as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants believe claim 1 and claims 2-19 are allowable over the cited references. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 25, 2006

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